

base plate, and wherein:

the means for securing the PCBA to the base plate are separate from the means for aligning the electrical connector relative to the base plate.

21. (New) The disc drive of claim 1 further comprising data pins extending from the electrical connector substantially lateral to the guide pin.

#### Remarks

By this amendment, claims 1, 2, 12 and 19 are amended, and claims 3 and 15 are canceled. Claim 21 is added. Claims 1, 2, 4 - 14, 16 - 21 are therefore pending in the present application.

#### 35 USC §112

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being indefinite.

Applicant respectfully requests for withdrawal of the rejections under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, believing that these rejections have been obviated by the amendment to claim 1 so that it now recites "a bottom surface of the base plate" and the amendment to claim 2 so that it now recites "the bottom surface of the base plate".

#### 35 USC §102

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Baxter et al. (US 5,881,454).

In response, claim 19 is amended to more clearly recite "means for aligning the electrical connector with direct reference to the base plate". This limitation is not disclosed in Baxter et al. Applicant therefore submits that amended claim 19 is not

anticipated by Baxter et al., and respectfully requests for the withdrawal of the 35 USC §102(b) rejection to claim 19.

### 35 USC 103

Claims 1- 8, 10-15, 17, 18 and 20 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Baxter et al. in view of Jabbari et al. (US 5,541,787). Claims 9 and 16 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Baxter et al. in view of Jabbari et al., and further in view of Cox (US 6,091,572).

To establish a prima facie case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the applied reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art.

Claim 1 is amended to recite "the PCBA having oversized holes through which fasteners extend to threadably engage the threaded openings". Baxter et al. and Jabbari et al. when combined do not teach or suggest this limitation of having a PCBA with oversized holes through which fasteners extend to threadably engage threaded openings on the base plate. With respect to claim 9, the combination of Baxter et al., Jabbari et al. with Cox also do not teach or suggest the limitation of having a PCBA with oversized holes through which fasteners extend to threadably engage threaded openings on the base plate. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 1 as amended, or any of its dependent claims 2, 4 - 11 and 21. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 USC §103(a) to claims 1, 2, 4 - 11 and 21 is respectfully requested.

Claim 12 is amended to recite a step of "inserting fasteners through oversized holes in the PCBA and into corresponding threaded openings in the base plate to fasten the PCBA to the base plate of the disc drive while the guide pin remains within the opening". Baxter et al. and Jabbari et al. when combined do not teach or suggest this limitation of inserting fasteners through oversized holes in the PCBA and into corresponding threaded openings in the base plate to fasten the PCBA to the base plate of the disc drive while the guide pin remains within the opening. With respect to claim 16, the combination of Baxter et al., Jabbari et al. with Cox also do not teach or suggest this limitation. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 12 as amended, or any of its dependent claims 13 - 14 and 16 - 18. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 USC §103(a) to claims 12 - 14 and 16-18 is respectfully requested.

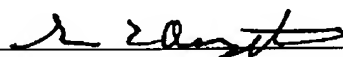
Since Baxter et al. when modified by Jabbari et al. does not teach or suggest the limitation in the amended claim 19 of having means for aligning the electrical connector with direct reference to the base plate, these applied references when combined do not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of claim 20 which depends from claim 19. Accordingly, Applicant submits that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 20, and thus requests for withdrawal of the rejection to claim 20 under 35 USC §103(a).

### Conclusion

In light of the amendments and reasons set forth above, Applicant believes that the pending claims 1, 2, 4 - 14, 16 - 21 are in condition for allowance, and thus respectfully requests for notification of the same. This is intended to be a complete response to the Office Action mailed May 8, 2002. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to resolve any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,  
Seagate Technology LLC  
(Assignee of the Entire Interest)

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Date

  
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Marked-Up Version of AmendmentsIn the Claims:

1. (Amended) A disc drive comprising:
  - a top cover;
  - a base plate attached to the top cover, the base plate having threaded openings;
  - a printed circuit board assembly ("PCBA") attached to a [the] bottom surface of the base plate, the PCBA having oversized holes through which fasteners extend to threadably engage the threaded openings;
  - an electrical connector secured to an edge of the PCBA;
  - a guide pin protruding from one of the base plate and the electrical connector;and
  - an opening defined in the other of the base plate and the electrical connector,wherein the guide pin is received within the opening to position the electrical connector relative to the base plate.
2. (Amended) The disc drive of claim 1 wherein:
  - the opening is defined in the [a] bottom surface of the base plate and extends vertically upward toward the top cover; and
  - the guide pin protrudes from the electrical connector and extends vertically upward to fit within the opening defined in the base plate.

Claim 3 is canceled.

12. (Amended) A method of positioning an electrical connector of a printed circuit board assembly ("PCBA") relative to a base plate of a disc drive, the method

comprising steps of:

- (a) inserting a guide pin formed on one of the electrical connector and the base plate into an opening formed in the other of the electrical connector and the base plate to align the electrical connector with the base plate; and
- (b) inserting fasteners through oversized holes in the PCBA and into corresponding threaded openings in the base plate to fasten [fastening] the PCBA to the base plate of the disc drive while the guide pin remains within the opening.

Claim 15 is canceled.

19. (Amended) A disc drive including a base plate and a printed circuit board assembly ("PCBA") attached to the base plate, the disc drive comprising:

an electrical connector attached to one end of the PCBA, the electrical connector having a plurality of data pins adapted to mate with a female connector in a computer system; and

means for aligning the electrical connector with direct reference [relative] to the base plate so that the data pins will be received within corresponding sockets of the female connector when the disc drive is installed within the computer system.

21. (New) The disc drive of claim 1 further comprising data pins extending from the electrical connector substantially lateral to the guide pin.